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MEDIA ADVISORY

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WE'RE RECORDING: NPR HANDS THE MIC TO THE NEXT GENERATION

SUMMER 2004 INTERNS PRODUCE RADIO SHOW

WASHINGTON, DC – Each summer, dozens of NPR interns experience the creative and journalistic challenge of producing their own one-hour radio newsmagazine, *Intern Edition 2004*. This summer's program premieres July 28 on npr.org/nextgen and will be archived on *Intern Edition's* Web site at www.npr.org/about/nextgen/sum04/index.html. The Web site also features participant biographies, photos from the show's production and information about NPR's internship opportunities.

This year marks the eighth program produced by NPR interns since the show began in 1999. NPR interns create *Intern Edition* – from development to production – with some guidance from NPR staff. The interns pitch, select, report, record and edit stories for the program. They also market the show, select music and design the *Intern Edition* Web site.

Intern Edition 2004 is being produced by a record 36 interns representing more than 18 states, selected from nearly 1,000 applicants. While radio as a business and career choice is declining overall with respect to other media – there are 40 percent fewer radio news people working in radio overall today than there were ten years ago – NPR and public radio stations in particular have experienced rapid growth in the last decade, and the trend is expected to continue as NPR expands its news staff and adds new bureaus over the next three years. “Shows come and go, news comes and goes. I’m looking for people who want to get into the public radio system and make a career of it,” says Doug Mitchell, project manager for NPR’s Next Generation Radio.

While the *Intern Edition* program is not for radio broadcast, select pieces are sometimes chosen for inclusion in NPR programs like the award-winning newsmagazines *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. Last summer, a record of three *Intern Edition* pieces found their way into NPR programs. This year's group hopes to beat that record.

Intern Edition is part of NPR's Next Generation Radio initiative, which aims to provide direct, experiential training in public radio journalism and program development. In 2003, NPR co-sponsored 13 radio-training projects across the United States. Nearly 40 former student interns and Next Generation Radio participants are currently working at NPR in Washington, D.C. and NPR West in Los Angeles, CA. Mitchell explains, “NPR values new voices and fresh ideas. The organization allows people to be themselves while learning.”

Intern Edition 2004 participants include: Elizabeth Arenas (Orlando, FL); Jenny Asarnow (Maplewood, NJ); Elyssa Back (New Haven, CT); Maria-Martina Castro (Falls Church, VA); Deirdre Connors (Bethesda, MD); Rebecca Ekpe (Denton, TX); Sierra Ferguson (Gainesville, FL); Sabrina Ford (Berkley, CA); Deanna Garcia (Las Cruces, NM); Maria Paz Herмосilla (Santiago, Chile); Christina Houghton (New York, NY); Sze Hui (High Point, NC); Danielle Ivory (Pullman, WA); Dana Bollt Kalish (Bethesda, MD); Margaret Kelley (Long Island, NY); Sunny Khemlani (Alexandria, VA); Alison Klayman (Wynnewood, PA); Susan Leem (Minneapolis, MN); Claudine LoMonaco (Los Angeles, CA); Matthew Lord (Iowa City, IA); Dana Maier (Falls Church, VA); Katrina Matthews (New Orleans, LA); Cathy McDonald (Washington, DC); Kaeleen McGuire (Fairview, OR); Amie McLean (New Orleans, LA); Paul

Moreno (Ridgefield, WA); Casey Parkin (Hagerstown, MD); Joshua Payne (Hoboken, NJ); Jennifer Pearl (Lyndhurst, OH); Tiffany Reed (Washington, DC); Tamra Robinson (Denver, CO); Emilia Stefanczyk (Kearny, NJ); Julia Taylor (McLean, VA); Craig Tello (Ridgefield Park, NJ); Kathryn Wooley (Carrollton, VA); and Julie Yen (San Diego, CA).

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